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This GIS data set being transmitted is a representation of the best available perimeters of sites, operable units, and facilities in EPA Region 3 currently on the National Priority List. The data set is being provided in ESRI "shape file" format.

The total number of polygons (records) in the shape file is 328, however, this does not equal the count of individual sites. There are several sites that contain multiple polygons. For example, there are 25 polygons (records) which comprise the single NPL facility known as the Marine Corps Combat Development Command Center.

EPA R3 manages NPL sites in two broad categories: those which are federal facilities and those which are not. Federal facilities are identified by a "Y" in the column labeled "ff".

Here are some additional caveats to this data set:

1. The total number of "sites" in Region 3 is 220. Of these, 95 are listed as "Construction Complete" (which means remediation is complete), 45 are listed as "Deleted" (meaning EPA considers these sites warranting no further action other than monitoring), and 78 are listed as "In Progress" (meaning EPA is still investigating whether these sites warrant being included in the "Construction Complete" list).
2. Two sites have no current perimeter boundary in the shape file. Those responsible for managing these sites are in the process of determining the correct boundary.
3. The term "boundary" should be used with caution as it could be interpreted several different ways. The polygons in this file could be property boundaries where the area of contamination is somewhere within the property but not completely encompassing it. They could be "best guess" limits of actual contamination, they could be limits of where remediation work is actually occurring, or several other definitions. For this sort of detail it is best to contact the project manager assigned to the individual facility. That information can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/>.
4. Attributes:
 - a. "Area" and "Perimeter" are listed as "Shape_Area" and "Shape_Leng", respectively;

- b. The requested attributes "site latitude", "site longitude", "x coordinate", and "y coordinate" are not applicable to polygon data sets;
- c. The requested attribute, "CERCLIS ID" is the same as "EPA ID";
- d. The requested attributes, "NPL ID" and "system code" require additional information as these are unfamiliar to us by those names. They may be attributes of a previous release of the data set that are no longer available.